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RCA-01/0014/69

Basic Imagery Interpretation Report



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IMENI GASTELLO ICBM COMPLEX

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DEPLOYED STRATEGIC SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILE FACILITIES

USSR

APRIL 1969

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INSTALLATION OR ACTIVITY NAME

COUNTRY

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Imeni Gastello ICBM Complex

UR

UTM COORDINATES

GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES

NA

51-03-30N 066-14-00E

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MAP REFERENCE

ACIC. USATC, Series 200, Sheet M0237-3HL, 2d ed, Mar 66, and Sheet M0237-8HL, 1st ed, Oct 65, scale 1:200,000 (SECRET)

LATEST IMAGERY USED

NEGATION DATE (if required)

NA

ABSTRACT

This report updates and supersedes NPIC report [REDACTED] *Imeni Gastello ICBM Complex, USSR*, April 1967. It contains a location map showing launch site deployment and a table giving construction timing and other data on the launch sites and other facilities at the complex. The information is current through [REDACTED]

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The complex consists of 36 Type IIIC single-silo launch sites deployed in six launch groups. Other components of the complex are the complex support facilities and a rail-to-road transfer point with a completed training site.

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INTRODUCTION

The Imeni Gastello ICBM Complex is located in the south-central part of the steppe region of western Siberia, about 300 nautical miles (nm) southeast of Magnitogorsk (Figure 1). The complex extends about 40 nm east-to-west and 30 nm north-to-south, and consists of six groups, each with six Type IIIC launch sites for the SS-9 missile system; complex support facilities; and a rail-to-road transfer point.

The complex is west of the Ishim River, in a sparsely populated region, where most of the small towns and villages are located along the river banks. Agriculture is the principal occupation, with wheat the predominant crop. The terrain is gently rolling, well drained, treeless steppeland with elevations ranging from about 600 feet in drains to over 1,000 feet at the highest points. The steppe region is the warmest part of western Siberia and snow cover is normally limited to the period from early November to mid-April.

Transportation to the complex is dependent upon rail facilities. The complex support facilities and the rail-to-road transfer point are served by a spur from a single-track rail line that branches off the Magnitogorsk-Akmolinsk line at Yesil, about 51 nm north of the complex. Both lines are part of the Kazakh rail system. A network of local roads connects the towns and villages in the area, but no cross-country highways exist. These roads are inadequate to meet the requirements of the complex, so a road system to serve the launch sites was constructed concurrently with the sites.

No SAM defenses or tactical air units are located near the complex; however, a sod landing area is located adjacent to the complex support facilities.

BASIC DESCRIPTION

Imeni Gastello ICBM Complex is one of six in which the SS-9 missile system is deployed exclusively in six launch groups, A through F. There is a total of 36 Type IIIC single-silo launch sites, of which 24 are complete and 12 are under construction. Other components of the complex are the complex support facilities and a rail-to-road transfer point.

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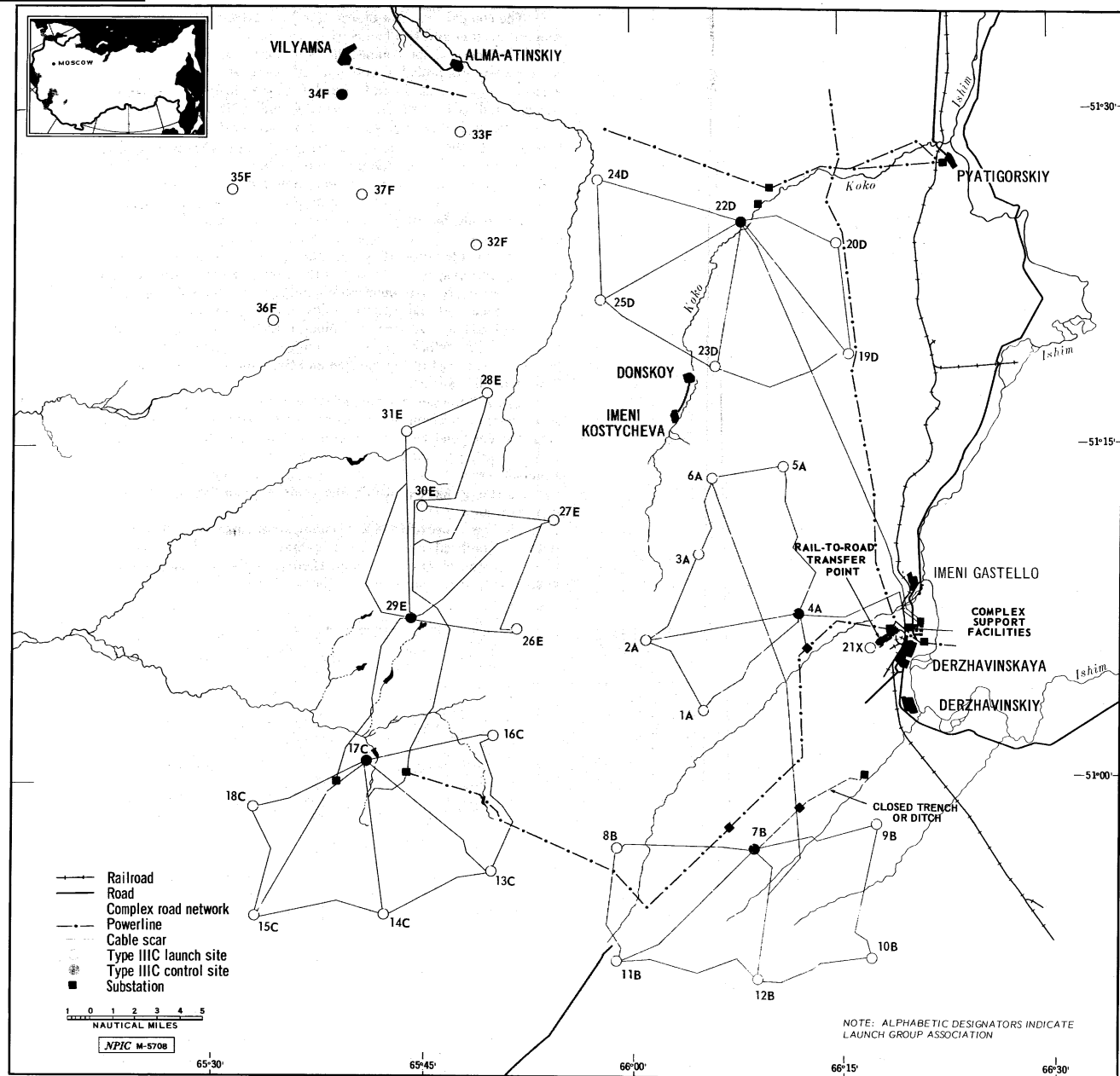


FIGURE 1. IMENI GASTELLO ICBM COMPLEX, USSR.

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[redacted]

The complex was first observed in [redacted] when the complex support facilities and two launch sites were under construction. There was no evidence of the complex in [redacted]. Construction for the complex was probably initiated early in [redacted] with work on the complex support facilities and Launch Group A. In [redacted] construction was initiated on Launch Groups B and C and in [redacted] Launch Group D was started and Launch Group A was completed. In [redacted] Launch Group E was the only group started and Launch Groups B and C were completed. Launch Group F was started in the spring of [redacted] and Launch Group D was completed about the same time. Launch Groups E and F are presently in a midstage of construction. Launch Group E should be completed by [redacted] and the sites in Group F by [redacted].

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The complex support facilities are situated on the east edge of the complex, north and northwest of the town of Derzhavinskaya. The major components, an administration and housing area with the headquarters command and control facility¹ in the northeast corner, and a railhead and storage area, are about 1 nm apart on opposite sides of the rail line which serves the complex. The administration and housing area is east of the rail line and the railhead and storage area is west of the rail line.

The rail-to-road transfer point² serving the complex is located at the end of a rail spur which passes through the railhead and storage area. The components include a propellant handling facility, a ground support equipment facility, [redacted] and a missile receiving and checkout facility. A Type IIIC single-silo training site is located within the transfer point but is separately secured from it.

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No new construction has been apparent since [redacted]. Material in the railhead and storage area appears to be sufficient only for those sites now under construction. There is ample space for additional groups both to the north and southeast of the complex.

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REFERENCES

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MAPS OR CHARTS

ACIC. US Air Target Chart, Series 200, Sheet M0237-3HL, 2d ed, Mar 66, and Sheet M0237-8HL,
1st ed, Oct 65, scale 1:200,000 (SECRET)

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DOCUMENTS

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1. NPIC. Soviet ICBM Headquarters Command and Control Facilities, Dec 68 (TOP SECRET)
2. NPIC. Rail-to-Road Transfer Points at SS-9 ICBM Complexes, USSR, Oct 68 (TOP SECRET)

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RELATED DOCUMENTS

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NPIC. Imeni Gastello ICBM Complex, USSR, Apr 67 (TOP SECRET)
NPIC. Imeni Gastello ICBM Complex, USSR, Dec 67 (TOP SECRET)

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REQUIREMENT

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NPIC Project 210159

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